

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USBERL 02258 261729Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 IO-13 TRSE-00 CU-04 /083 W
-----073883 270210Z /73

R 261526Z AUG 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5184
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2258

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV, BQG, WB, UR
SUBJECT: PRAVDA COMPLAINT ABOUT EUROPEAN COUNCIL ART EXHIBITION
IN BERLIN: POLISH AND HUNGARIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM FEST-
WOCHEN

REF: MOSCOW 12179

1. BERLIN CDU CHAIRMAN PETER LORENZ (QUOTED IN TAGESSPIEGEL
AUGUST 24) SHARPLY REBUTTED PRAVDA CLAIMS THAT EUROPEAN
COUNCIL ART EXHIBITION CURRENTLY BEING HELD IN WEST
BERLIN CONSTITUTES A VIOLATION OF THE QUADRIpartite
AGREEMENT. LORENZ TERMED SOVIET COMMENTARY "ANOTHER
ATTEMPT TO TURN THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT INTO A
GUILLOTINE FOR BERLIN'S TIES WITH THE FRG AND THE FREE
PART OF EUROPE." AS SUMMARIZED BY TAGESSPIEGEL AUGUST 23,
PRAVDA EDITORIAL HAD ASSERTED THAT WEST BERLIN DOES NOT
NOW AND NEVER BELONGED TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND CONDEMNED
THE ORGANIZATION AS BEING UNDER "INFLUENCE OF THOSE PEOPLE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USBERL 02258 261729Z

WHO USE EVERY PRETEXT TO CREATE THE ILLUSION THAT WEST
BERLIN BELONGS TO THE FRG.
2. WITHDRAWAL OF POLAND AND HUNGARY FROM PARTICIPATION
IN THE BERLIN FESTIVAL WEEKS (FESTWOCHEN) WAS WIDELY
ATTRIBUTED IN PRESS TO SOVIET UNHAPPINESS OVER THE
EUROPEAN COUNCIL EXHIBITION BEING HELD CONCURRENTLY
IN BERLIN, ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO PUBLIC LINKAGE

OF THE TWO EVENTS BY THE EAST. COUNSELOR OF POLISH MILITARY MISSION SEDZIWIY TOLD BRITISH POLITICAL ADVISOR AUGUST 18 THAT THERE HAD CERTAINLY BEEN A POLITICAL MOTIVE BEHIND THE POLISH FESTWOCHEN CANCELLATION, BUT HIS INSTRUCTIONS HAD GIVEN NO HINT OF ITS NATURE. HE COULD ONLY GUESS IT CONCERNED THE "TRENDS OF THE TWENTIES" SHOW. HE VIEWED THE WITHDRAWAL AS A PERSONAL DISAPPOINTMENT AND REGRETTE THE BREAKING OF CONTRACTS THIS NECESSITATED. SEDZIWIY DID MAINTAIN THAT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE WAS AN OBJECTIONABLE ORGANIZATION WHICH DID MORE HARM THAN GOOD FOR EUROPE AS A WHOLE BY SEEKING TO DIVIDE IT. POLAND WAS NONETHELESS EAGER TO ORGANIZE FURTHER EVENTS IN BERLIN, HE CLAIMED, AND EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT THE 1978 WORLD SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS WOULD TAKE PLACE WITHOUT QUARRELS.

3. NEW HUNGARIAN CONSUL GENERAL IN WEST BERLIN (NAGY), IN INITIAL CALL ON BRITISH COMMANDANT AUGUST 16, CITED "TECHNICAL REASONS" FOR HIS OWN COUNTRY'S PULLING OUT OF THE FESTIVAL WEEKS, AND AGREED THE WITHDRAWAL WAS "A BAD THING."

4. COMMENT: IN 1966 THE ALLIED KOMMANDATURA ALLOWED THE EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF THE TREATY CONFERRING EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP ON THE FRG. HOWEVER, BERLIN'S MEMBERSHIP OR NON-MEMBERSHIP IN THE COUNCIL
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USBERL 02258 261729Z

IS NOT A REAL ISSUE: THERE IS NO REASON THE ART EXHIBIT COULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE EVEN IF BERLIN WERE NOT PART OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL. IF THE SOVIET UNION, BY CAUSING THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS TO PULL OUT OF THE FESTWOCHEN, IS TRYING TO PUNISH WEST BERLIN FOR ALLOWING THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL EXHIBITION TO TAKE PLACE HERE, WE BELIEVE IT IS A PUNISHMENT WHICH WILL BE TAKEN IN STRIDE. THE EXHIBITION, INCIDENTALLY, IS AN OVERWHELMING SUCCESS WITH CONSTANT CAPACITY CROWDS AT ITS FOUR SITES. THIS SAID, IT REMAINS NEVERTHELESS TRUE THAT THE SOVIET QUIBLLING OVER AN ART EXHIBITION DOES CAUSE SOME UNEASINESS AMONG BERLINERS WHO WONDER WHAT THE SOVIETS HAVE IN MIND IN MAKING SUCH OUTRAGEOUS PROTESTS. GEORGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARTS, PRESS COMMENTS, EXHIBITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL02258
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770310-0184
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770816/aaaaanhb.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e6e5df51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 12179
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1461671
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRAVDA COMPLAINT ABOUT EUROPEAN COUNCIL ART EXHIBITION IN BERLIN: POLISH AND HUNGARIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM FEST- WOCHEN
TAGS: PGOV, WB, UR, BQG
To: BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e6e5df51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009